

THOMAS E. ANDERSON (3)
RONALD W. CITKOWSKI
JUDITH M. RILEY
JULIE A. GREENBERG
DOUGLAS J. MCEVOY
ELLEN S. COGEN (3)
JOHN G. POSA
DOUGLAS L. WATHEN
AVERY N. GOLDSTEIN, PH.D.
MARK D. SCHNEIDER
BEVERLY M. BUNTING
LIONEL D. ANDERSON

OF COUNSEL ROBERTA J. MORRIS, PH.D. (4)

PATENT AGENTS
MARTIN S. BANCROFT, PH.D.
JULIE K. STAPLE, PH.D.

## LAW OFFICES

## GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C.

PATENT, TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT PRACTICE 280 N. OLD WOODWARD AVENUE, SUITE 400 BIRMINGHAM. MICHIGAN 48009-5394

> (248) 647-6000 FACSIMILE (248) 647-5210 info@patlaw.com

August 6, 2003 Our File: MPAK-10002/01 ALFRED L. PATMORE, JR. (1929-1997)

ANN ARBOR OFFICE
101 NORTH MAIN, SUITE 800
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48104-1476
(734) 913-9300
FACSIMILE (734) 913-6007

FLORIDA OFFICE

101 WEST VENICE AVE., SUITE 28

VENICE, FLORIDA 34285

(941) 488-4245

FACSIMILE (941) 484-5258\_

ALSO ADMITTED II (1) WISCONSIN (2) OHIO (3) FLORIDA (4) NEW YORK

Ms. Jennifer Knoepp Jen's Innovations 920 43<sup>rd</sup> Street North St. Petersburg, Florida 33713

> Via Express Mail EV 339615079US

Re: New US Patent Application for

WEATHER SCREEN APPARATUS

Inventor: Jennifer Knoepp

Dear Ms. Knoepp:

We have just received the revised drawings from Quint Shelton for the above-identified application to include Figure 5 and apologize for the delay. I have attached a copy of the patent application along with a copy of the drawings for your review.

If the application meets with your approval, please sign and date the Declaration and Power of Attorney where indicated and return the documents back to my office for filing in the U.S. Patent Office.

Enclosed is an Entity Status Checklist to assist you in determining whether you qualify as a small entity for the purpose of paying reduced government fees. Please complete the form, sign where indicated and return to us. We will pay large entity fees unless the signed form is returned to us, but we would appreciate receiving the signed form for our files in either event.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office requires that a copy of all known prior art be submitted for review by the Examiner. This prior art is submitted in the form of an Information Disclosure Statement at the time of filing the application or within three months thereafter to prevent the possibility of payment of fees for late filing. We will submit any pertinent art contained in our files by virtue of any patentability searches we may have conducted or art you have previously

## GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C.

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provided to us. If you are aware of any additional art such as patents, journal articles, or other publications that may be material to this application kindly forward it immediately.

All US applications are published after a period of 18 months from the earliest filing date from which benefit is sought. That first date may include a corresponding provisional filing date, priority date, parent filing date or related international filing date. It is possible to prevent publication if the applicant certifies that it has not and will not file the application in another publication country. This certification must be filed with the application; it cannot be filed at a later date. If the application is ultimately foreign filed, the certification must be rescinded within 45 days of filing the corresponding foreign application. Failure to timely file the Request to Rescind results in abandonment of the US application.

Publication does, however, provide a number of benefits to the applicant. The publication document serves as a prior art document against other later-filed applications, creates advantages if an interference is filed and also confers provisional protection in the event of infringement. In light of these advantages, as well as the inherent risks of not properly rescinding a non-publication certification, it is our recommendation that all applications be allowed to publish unless there is a strong reason to the contrary. If you wish to maintain this application as a trade secret, kindly advise us <u>immediately</u> so that we may file the necessary certification to prevent publication with the application. After the application has been filed, the only way to prevent publication is to abandon the application.

Do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions.

Mark D. Schneider

MDS:jtl Enclosures